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### Former interior department official to speak at UM

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Sept. 15, 2008

**Contact:** Jennifer Forsyth, 406-546-3282, [jennifer.forsyth@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.forsyth@umontana.edu) or Michael Wolfe, 406-579-6804, [michael.wolfe@umontana.edu](mailto:michael.wolfe@umontana.edu), co-conference editors, Public Land & Resources Law Review.

### **FORMER INTERIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TO SPEAK AT UM**

#### **MISSOULA —**

John Leshy, who served as general counsel to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt during the Clinton administration, will give the keynote address of the 32nd Annual Public Land Law Conference at The University of Montana.

Leshy will present "Notes on Progressive Public Lands Policy" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22, in the University Center Theater. The conference keynote event is free and open to the public.

Leshy, who is a Harvard Law School graduate, currently is Harry D. Sunderland Distinguished Professor of Real Property Law at the University of California Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco.

Before joining the Hastings faculty in 2001, Leshy served as special counsel to the chair of the House Natural Resources Committee. He also was associate solicitor of interior for energy and resources during the Carter administration and a litigator in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Leshy has published widely on public lands, water and other natural resources issues and on constitutional and comparative law. He is co-author of "Federal Public Land and



Resources Law” and “Legal Control of Water Resources.”

Leshy currently serves as vice chair of the board of the Wyss Foundation, which supports land conservation in the Intermountain West.

More information about the Sept. 22-24 Public Land Law Conference – “Federal Lands Agenda for the 21st Century: Options for the Next Administration” – is online at <http://www.publiclandlawreview.org>.

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